

2007 Community Program Proposed Plan York County

Objective/Goal

Explore our history, heritage and legacies as we develop local historical programs, festivals and special events that complement the statewide commemoration. We accomplish this by looking at the past, showcasing the present and planning for the future by adopting a project that leaves a lasting public legacy.

These goals are designed to create advances in economic development, increased tourism and renewed educational awareness of Virginia's role in the development of America.

Steps

1. **Organize a 2007 planning committee** – Organize a committee of community leaders with diverse backgrounds who are willing to promote and coordinate 2007 activities (see attached proposed committee).
2. **Discover our unique assets** – Examine the community history, its heroes, and heritage.
3. **Develop special projects and events** – Adopt ongoing projects or create new ones to be completed before or during 2007 that have lasting value to the community and its citizens.
4. **Come Home to Virginia** – Package and promote special projects and invite everyone to “come home” in 2007.

Projects/Programs/Events

1. **Yorktown Riverwalk Revitalization** – this project is targeted for completion by 2006 and will certainly have lasting value to the community and citizens. Various grand opening events and ceremonies will be held for completion of freight shed, riverwalk and the pier, which will all, include the “Come Home To Virginia” theme.
2. **Tall Ship Committee** – this committee will be working on attracting Tall Ships and other vessels to Yorktown, as a docking destination after the new Yorktown Pier is complete. Possibly tie in with Yorktown Day or other existing events in order to create increased awareness.
3. **New Quarter Park** – Build in heritage trails and a colonial learning garden to enhance community and citizen experience. Possible plans of developing new Botanical Gardens that will also renew the heritage and beautification.
4. **Events** – Year-Long programs that will include enhancement of existing events (i.e., Yorktown Day, Fourth of July, Virginia Symphony,

Watermen's Heritage Celebration and various Park Service and Victory Center events) by incorporating "Come Home To Virginia" theme. Develop banner to be utilized at various events and programs promoting theme. Encourage and provide support to County businesses to expand and create new museum exhibits, programs and events.

5. **The Gallery at York Hall** – Implement "Come Home to Virginia" theme into various gallery exhibits throughout the year.
6. **2006 Celebration** – This will mark the 225th anniversary of the battle at Yorktown. Multiple year-long celebrations will occur throughout the year. Existing and new events will promote the anniversary via banners, promotional materials, announcements and press releases. The tall ship committee will capitalize on the importance of that year and attracting tall ships and other vessels for various events such as Yorktown Day. These programs will aid in rekindling and renewing widespread connections to Virginia.
7. **Library Programs** – Work with children services librarian to include heritage themes for story hour and weave the theme into Battle of the Books program and various other programs.
8. **Educational Programs** – Work with the schools to enhance educational opportunities. Encourage schools to develop new educational curricula, materials and related products for both the 2006-07 and 2007-08 curriculum years. Some possibilities include developing Internet programs and electronic field trips or hold essay, art and photo contests for children.
9. **Commemorative Tree** – Work with Virginia Cooperative Extension and master gardeners to designate a tree in Yorktown (i.e., crepe myrtle, dogwood, oak tree) that will be used in planting ceremonies for 2007 programs.